

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /126 R

DRAFTED BY IO:CWMAYNES:OM
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES
NEA:MDRAPER

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P 132153Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232357

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PORG, IS, UN, LE, EG, SY, MARR

SUBJECT:UNIFIL MANDATE

1. ISRAELI MINISTER BAR-ON CALLED ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES ON SEPTEMBER 13 TO REQUEST THAT THE U.S. OPPOSE EFFORTS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO CRITICIZE ISRAEL IN THE RESOLUTION RENEWING THE UNIFIL MANDATE. MAYNES REPLIED THAT WE WOULD OPPOSE STRONGLY EFFORTS TO INCLUDE CONDEMNATORY LANGUAGE IN THE PROCEDURAL RESOLUTION RENEWING THE UNIFIL MANDATE NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE REQUEST BAR-ON HAD MADE BUT ALSO BECAUSE OUR TRADITIONAL POSITION HAS BEEN THAT PROCEDURAL SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS SHOULD NOT BE CLUTTERED UP WITH CONTENTIOUS SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS.

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2. MAYNES ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT WE NEED MORE HELP FROM ISRAEL THAN WE SOMETIMES GET IN PREPARING FOR THE UNIFIL DEBATE. HE NOTED THE VERY CONFRONTATIONAL PRESS RELEASE OF THE ISRAELI UN AMBASSADOR WHEN HE PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO THE UN AND HE REVIEWED THE DIFFICULTIES AMERICAN EMBASSY TEL AVIV HAS ENCOUNTERED IN FOLLOWING UP ON THE

WEIZMAN COMMITMENT, REGARDING UNIFIL DEPLOYMENT IN THE CHRISTIAN ENCLAVES. BAR-ON VOICED EMBARRASSMENT AND SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS LAST QUESTION WITH WEIZMAN AT CAMP DAVID. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT WEIZMAN WANTED TO FULFILL

HIS COMMITMENT, A POINT MAYNES SAID HE WISHED TO STRESS THE U.S. WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY CONTEST. BAR-ON NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR BLUM IN NEW YORK HAD SENT A SIMILAR REPORT TO ISRAEL REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF FULFILLING THE WEIZMAN COMMITMENT.

COMMENT: BAR-ON'S WHOLE APPROACH THROUGHOUT THE CONVERSATION WAS LACKING IN ITS USUAL FORCE AS IF HE HIMSELF COULD UNDERSTAND WHY THE U.S. WOULD ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY IN BLUNTING CRITICISM OF ISRAEL ON THE COUNCIL. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE232357
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CWMAYNES:OM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780373-0551
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780970/aaaacfsu.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 54ed5751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1447212
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIFIL MANDATE
TAGS: PORG, MARR, IS, LE, EG, SY, UN
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/54ed5751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014